

Wichita Daily Eagle

M. M. MURDOCK, Editor.

The first of the year would be a good time for the Democratic administration to turn over a new leaf.

Simply "general agent" is the title of the gentleman who is at the head of the Santa Fe system, under the receivers.

The Santa Fe is a Kansas institution, but it was the lines outside of the state that caused its present embarrassment.

Vicious as the administration of Hawaiian policy is, it is more courageous than the agent it sent out there to execute it.

The commissions that Cleveland might have put in the stockings of the federal office-seekers were conspicuous for their absence.

The Santa Fe railroad is in no danger of going into the hands of a receiver.—Kansas City Gazette, 24th.

A special grand jury has indicted a large number of prominent local politicians in New York for frauds committed at the late election.

The squeezing process is still going on and is likely to continue until there is less water, and consequently more solidly, than there has been for some time.

It is hardly true that all bicycle riders are cranks or have wheels in their heads, but there should be some investigation as to the cause of the increased number of cranks.

Oklahoma's chances for statehood are lessened in the ratio that the intelligence of her settlers exceed that of some of the foreign populated territories seeking admission.

The discovery that wheat fed to cows makes extra good milk is a valuable one. If we can fatten our hogs and improve our butter by feeding wheat to our cows and hogs, we shall the more rapidly liquidate and reassert our independence.

The prompt action of the Santa Fe receivers in appointing Mr. D. B. Robinson as their agent means that there will be no interruption in the mechanical operation of the system, but that the public will be served as promptly and as efficiently as heretofore. The appointment is a good one and will meet with popular approval.

The Bank of England not only has not proceeded against its late chief cashier, who resigned under a cloud, but it has decided to grant a liberal annuity to the delinquent's family. Is this clemency attributable to the indulgent mood of the old lady on Threadneedle street, or does it indicate that the alleged irregularities were magnified? Either way it has a familiar American flavor.

The only point Chairman Wilson offers in extenuation of his committee's work in cutting down the tariff is that it will give the poor people of the country good cheap clothing; but what benefit is the quality or price of clothing to people who have nothing with which to buy? What the poor people want is employment; this will enable them to take care of themselves. But the Wilson bill does not so much as promise that.

The suggestion that sugar may be replaced upon the tariff list in lieu of a personal income tax as proposed is unadvised to come from Secretary Carlisle; but it would seem that the lamentable experience recently had with Mr. Carlisle's issue dixit would suggest to Congress the advisability of "going it alone" in the matter of the legislation now in hand.

The widespread distress throughout the country caused by the general stagnation of business is calling into active play the philanthropic impulses of the well-to-do, especially in the larger cities of the country. Never, perhaps, has there been so large and well organized relief measures planned and put into operation as at this moment. The spectacle thus presented is a grand one as exemplifying the teachings of man's great Benefactor.

The Fort Scott Monitor says: "Kansas City, Kansas, and Wichita are still throwing brick bats at each other." It "sint so." We are beseeching and begging Wichita in behalf of Kansas to help us to pull the chief glory of the Sun Hills over on to Kansas soil.—Kansas City Gazette.

It is no use, George; the Eagle's long and faithful efforts to accomplish it demonstrated that it can't be done—it's too late. We've got to get away, and keep away from the absorbing influence. And the proper distance, in the Eagle's judgment, is about 212 miles.

The points suggested in Governor Fishback's letter to the president are well taken and present a condition of affairs in the Indian Territory which, while not new, make it imperative upon the federal government to do something to relieve it, or else make that portion of the territory a part of the proposed new state and erect it into sovereignty at the earliest possible moment so that it may take the necessary steps to purge its domain of the outlawry that is a constant menace to life and property, settled or transient, within its bounds. Statehood for the territory as a whole would put an end to the conditions referred to, while to leave the Indian country out would be to aggravate the trouble complained of.

It is announced from Topeka that a combine of leading Populists has been formed for the purpose of purchasing a straight party organ, to be run in the interest of state and federal offices. The parties named in the immediate connection are Charles Robinson, W. H. Sears, John A. Eaton, George W. Clark, Governor Lewelling and John W. Breckinridge. The parcelling out of the offices leads off with Robinson for governor and Lewelling for United States, with the lesser characters for the subordinate positions. The scheme is a bad one for the paper and worse for the schemers.

AN UNIQUE LAW POINT.

The courts of California will shortly be called on, no doubt, to decide a unique point of law, and a new one to American jurisprudence. The question involved is whether or not a limited contract of marriage is good law? A couple in that state entered into a contract some time ago to bear to each other the relation of husband and wife for six months. A week ago the same couple appeared before a notary and made a new contract "to be married for a period of six months" longer. They claim to be acting under the advice of competent lawyers, who advise them that as marriage is a civil contract, all the legal principles to civil contracts apply to marriage also. Other lawyers advise to the contrary, and the courts are to be appealed to to decide the point.

Obviously enough the interest of public morals requires an adverse decision from the courts, but what may be done through the technicalities of the law cannot be anticipated.

PARTISANSHIP VERSUS JUSTICE.

The question of statehood for Oklahoma, in all that has been said and done in the territory, has been free from partisan bias, party politics never once, so far as the EAGLE is concerned, having entered into any of the purposes or plans of the people of the territory looking to its admission into the union of states. Still, and nevertheless, it appears that party lines are to be drawn in congress and in Oklahoma is denied admission it will be on account of the doubt of what its political complexion will be as a state.

The Democrats in the house of representatives by a strict party vote have passed the bill admitting Utah, New Mexico and Arizona. Every Democrat in the house voted for the admission of these territories, although their importance is small. Every one of them is represented by a Democrat, and it is expected that they will elect Democratic senators and representatives and thus strengthen that party in both branches of congress. Notwithstanding the fact that Oklahoma has a much larger population than Arizona, Chairman Wheeler, when pointedly asked by members of the house what his intentions were in regard to the admission of Oklahoma, made an evasive reply, the substance of which was that the conditions in Oklahoma were such as to indicate that its admission at this time was not advisable.

The fact that Oklahoma is represented on the floor of the house by a Republican, and that if admitted as a state it would probably send a Republican representative and two Republican senators, is the only explanation that can be offered for its rejection while the three rotten boroughs mentioned are to be accorded the privilege of statehood. By way of showing how absolutely unjust and partisan this performance is, it may be interesting to examine the figures as to the population and votes of the four territories, three of which it is proposed to admit and the fourth to reject.

If it were possible for any agricultural state or country to prosper and its people grow rich upon a single staple product the cotton growing states of the south ought to be at the acme of prosperity. True, the price of cotton has been downward for the past three or four years, in the main, and taken by itself, the fleece, it bears no margin of profit to the producer; but the unpremeditated development of the cotton seed oil industry of late years has added to the value of the cotton crop fully one hundred per cent at present prices of the staple. If the producers of the crop could receive the benefit, or even a liberal portion, of this added value they might get out of debt after awhile, become independent and grow rich. But they get little of this profit, it being divided between the ginners, the oil mill men, and the factors who advance the money to carry on the business a year in advance. And the producer is forced to continue his "read-mill gait," just as it is with all who rely upon a single crop anywhere and everywhere.

Commissioner Wampler will pass through the state in a short time with a supply of fish which he will dump into the creeks and rivers—an absolute waste of time, endeavor, and the money expended in propagating and distributing the fish, and will continue to be until suitable and adequate legislation is had to care for and protect the fish in the streams of the state. As the case stands now the streams are full of seines and nets and traps, and what few fish escape these are killed with dynamite or other explosives, until there are practically no fish left and none permitted to grow. Fish is a valuable article of food, and with proper care and protection that crop could be made profitable, but there is nothing in it as at present.

Mr. McCrory of Kentucky, feels sure we are going to have another international monetary conference. Mr. Voorhees has introduced a bill providing for the coinage of the seigniorage. Mr. Carlisle advocates an issue of bonds and a large increase in the gold reserve. Mr. Hill has introduced a bill providing for the coinage of the seigniorage. Mr. Hill has introduced a bill providing for the coinage of the seigniorage. Mr. Hill has introduced a bill providing for the coinage of the seigniorage.

The mistake Gov. Penoyer of Oregon made in his last appeal to Cleveland was in supposing that he could be touched with the feeling of the country's infirmities. What does Cleveland care for the tears of suffering and distress wrung from the eyes of famishing women over the forms of the naked and starving little ones? Such pictures have no more effect upon the mental vision and moral sensibility of the White House autocrat than would a mirror held before a blind man or the sting of a scorpion to a corpse.

What with the dispatch of troops by the porte to Yozat, in the pashalik of Seveas in Asia Minor, owing to trouble with the Armenians, the sick man may be approaching the long looked for collapse. As for that, however, the Turk is still unspeakable.

The Yates Center News calls down the Murlocks on their howls about all the Republican nominees coming from eastern Kansas, by pointing out that A. W. Smith lives west of the Murdock "dead line." Bob Moore lives west of the dead line, and Billy Edwards lives west of the dead line.—Kansas City Star.

The facts cited by the News emphasize the point raised by the Murlocks. Not one of the three named ever held a state office, though the only thing that could be alleged against them was the accident of their places of residence—west of the "dead line," which accident no doubt contributed to their defeat and the party's.

The charter of the Louisiana lottery having expired, the concern has been removed bag and baggage to Honduras. For the past two years that concern has been forbidden the use of the mail service for its correspondence, and its removal will raise a new issue, and that is whether the prohibition will hold against its mail matter now that it has become international?

MONEY—SILVER, GOLD, PAPER.

The following extract from our issue of the 21st, inst., is a ray of light breaking through the masses of clouds which surround the object of silver:

Senator Teller may fairly be classed among the silver enthusiasts; still his statements touching the silver situation in Mexico, ascertained by personal observation and inquiry, present a point of deep concern in this country and one that has been urged by silver advocates all the while the controversy, and that is the ability of the government to maintain a silver currency without regard to the policy of other governments. The Mexican government, it seems, has maintained its circulation upon a silver basis alone, and will continue to do so, which circumstance will prompt silver advocates here to inquire, if Mexico can do this, why not the United States?

The following taken from a recent issue of the New York Commercial Advertiser is another illustration of the charge made by any national government for coining bullion on private account. It usually takes the form of a certain percentage, fixed by law, to be deducted from the metal brought to the mint. In other words when an individual brings to a government mint a quantity of one of the precious metals, he is to be paid for it, he will receive a weight of coins equal to the weight of pure metal brought, less the percentage deducted as compensation to the government for its services and incidental expenses of coining, and plus the weight of the alloy.

When it is proposed to coin the seigniorage silver now in the treasury the minting of the proposition is that all the silver bullion purchased under the act of July, 1890, commonly called the Sherman act, has already been coined and above the amount that would be needed to furnish standard silver dollars to match each dollar represented by treasury notes issued under the law, shall be coined into standard dollars.

The word seigniorage is derived from the word seignior, or king. Seigniorage is a revenue. In the vaults of the United States treasury lie over \$100,000,000 of silver bullion secured as tax for the coining of silver. This can now be coined and used in general appropriations for pensions and other needs of the government. The truth of the matter is our government never appropriated a dollar to purchase silver, but it has increased the volume of the currency by the deposit of silver mined in this country and the issuance of a certificate of deposit, the so-called Sherman dollar or coin treasury note. The word purchase was necessary to establish the difference between the government and coining value in order to secure for the government the seigniorage revenue.

President Cleveland is entirely Utopian in his idea of international money. English money is gold, but that does not make it circulate elsewhere. International money is the full of coming and going in commodities, and these commodities are gold and silver bullion, iron ore, cotton, tobacco, etc., etc. The Herschel commission, which recently examined the monetary systems of the world, found Brazil floating a fiat money at par, yet experiencing no difficulty in foreign exchange. Domestic coinage cuts no figure whatever in foreign exchange. If the contract with a foreign country calls for gold, gold must be furnished, not however as money, as dollars or eagles, but as bullion, as a commodity, and in this category of commodities fall gold bonds of railroads and also those of the United States.

The so-called Gresham law now some three hundred years old to the effect that an inferior coin drives out its superior is no longer applicable since the introduction of the bill of exchange. It might have been true three hundred years ago when weak nations pilfered the coinage of stronger countries, but in the magnitude of international trade as now conducted the bill of exchange practically puts a stop to the use of money except in a few instances of modern and very recent times, to one of which I desire to allude because in my opinion the panic in the United States is directly traceable to it.

On the 13th day of October, 1890, the firm of H. H. Heidebach, Spillman & Co., gold and silver exporters in the city of New York, as sub-agents for the European fiscal agent of Austria, took one million dollars of coin treasury notes to the sub-treasury and asked their redemption in gold. Inasmuch as specific redemption was refused to have the gold prepared for shipment by next day's steamer to Germany, the officials well knew that the gold was intended for the war chest of Austria. A consultation was held with Secretary Carlisle, and it was decided to redeem in gold, although the redemption was refused to have the gold prepared for shipment by next day's steamer to Germany, the officials well knew that the gold was intended for the war chest of Austria.

Queries: Was it the money or the policy at fault? May not the United States as well as France and other great nations protect its gold reserve? Knowing the gold was desired, not for trade, but for foreign gold reserve, what should have been our policy? If these raids on our gold reserve by the simple redemption of paper money, by such firms as Kuhn, Loeb & Co., Seligman & Co., Heidebach, Spillman & Co., (note the names) are kept up, how long can a gold reserve of \$100,000,000 withstand the assaults of a paper currency of over \$300,000,000, of which \$350,000,000 of greenbacks are redeemable on demand, and \$200,000,000 of national bank notes, in effect, in gold?

It is believed by the writer that the Sherman note issued under the act of July 14, 1890, was the ideal note of the century, for the reason that it provided automatic increase to the volume of the currency in keeping with the steady growth of the country and also permitted the adoption of a policy to protect the gold reserve, the Hon. John Sherman to the contrary notwithstanding.

Coming day, but suddenly there came "a frost, a killing frost." Silver is and should be as much the policy of North and South America as the Monroe doctrine. Silver is mined in the country and purchased in England. The profoundest student of the money subject this country ever produced was the late Senator Beck. At his death he left a library consisting of pretty much everything ever written, spoken or published on the subject of money. Mr. Beck prophesied that the day this country demonetized silver every production would begin to recede in price to about one-half and that such was merely the doubling of the purchasing power of the dollar produced by the single gold basis, and that such was the nucleus from time immemorial by which the money barons of Europe at periodical times took the financial world by the throat and secured their inordinate gains. JERE JOHNSON, Kildare, Oklahoma.

CANNOT AFFORD MISTAKES.

From the South Kansas Tribune. We regret to see that there is an effort among many of our staunch old Republicans, some of whom have been officeholders for many years, to assume to dictate the policy of the party long in advance of the convention, and to parcel out offices, both state and congressional. We oppose any division of the party into "old crowds" or "new crowds" and favor a happy medium which will draw all classes into the ranks of the best party ever controlled a state or nation. The party should start into the next campaign without entanglements, and it will only be fair for our "wheel horses" who have been honored by the party with from three to four offices, or for several terms, or because of personal or personal objections, to give others an opportunity to share the responsibility of office.

There is a strong feeling in some localities to call practical business men to the front, rather than men who have been classed as professional politicians. The coming campaign will be the most far-reaching in the history of the state, and Republicans can not afford to make mistakes or carry dead weights. The state can only be redeemed from the disastrous results of cranks, populism and socialism, by a sweeping Republican victory. "We need it in our business." We want immigration. We want eastern money to build factories and to buy and improve farms, and above all we want to restore confidence, which can never be under the present condition of politics. Republicans must be united and we must have a ticket that will commend itself to the business interests of the state.

LOST IN A PASTURE.

A Stranger's Queer Experience in a Texas Town. A recent Belcherville, Tex., letter says: "Say, mister, your horses are in the little Belcher pasture. Any time you get ready for them I'll send a man on a horse to drive them up for you."

My jovial landlord addressed these words to me the day after I had arrived at the little Texas city from which this letter is dated. He was an accommodating kind of a fellow, and I, wishing to be equally accommodating, answered: "O, you needn't bother yourself about that. My horses are both gentle, and if they're only in a little pasture I can catch them without any trouble."

Mr. Jackson looked a little dubious, but said "All right," and I supposed it was. Later developments showed, however, that the statement was incorrect. The next day I had occasion to use my ponies, and having previously learned where the "little Belcher pasture" was I started to hunt them up.

When I entered the pasture I noticed that it seemed to be a little longer than I had imagined. A few hundred yards from the entrance there was a little belt of timber, through which I felt confident a creek flowed. I supposed that the fence on the far side of the pasture was probably just beyond this creek. I walked down to the timber, jumped the creek at its narrowest place, and made my way through the timber on the farther bank.

After a walk of some thirty minutes I found myself once more at the edge of the open prairie, but with no fence in sight in any direction. There were hundreds of cattle and scores of horses to be seen, but none that looked like mine. I made some ineffectual search for mine, but had about the same chance of finding them I would have had in finding a needle in a haystack.

Then, in disgust, I tried to find my way back to the hotel. This was easier tried than accomplished. I had gotten "befuddled" in my wanderings, and had no very accurate idea as to the direction to be taken. Finally, however, after over an hour's wandering through the bushes and over the creek banks, I reached the hotel, covered with mud and "sticktight," tired and much out of humor.

"Say, Jackson," I called, sarcastically, "how many counties does that 'little Belcher pasture' take in, anyway? Does it stop at the Rio Grande, or does it extend into Mexico?" Mr. Jackson looked rather aggrieved, but grinned as he answered: "I said your horses were in a pasture. I didn't say they were in no darned horse lot, did I? Didn't I offer to have them drive up for you? That pasture's five miles long, but it ain't over half a mile broad in lots of places, and there ain't much more than 1,500 acres in it altogether. Old man Belcher used to own 20,000 acres here, and we called that the Belcher pasture. He's sold all but this little patch, though, and that's why we call this the little Belcher pasture. See?"

I saw, and at the same time I began to realize that I had gotten into the land of big pastures. Next day I had one man say to his companions: "Boys, you see that fellow yonder? Darned if he didn't get lost in the little Belcher pasture."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

FOREIGNERS OF NOTE.

The ex-Empress Eugenie will spend the winter at her villa near Mentone on the Mediterranean. The empress of Russia's physician when in attendance upon his imperial patient receives a fee of three hundred and fifty dollars a day (seven hundred rubles). QUEEN MARGARET of Italy is about to publish a series of popular stories in one of the Roman reviews, to be put in book form later—doubtless in royal octavo form. HENRY LABOUCHERE, of London, Truth, has an inordinate love of tobacco, an inexhaustible fund of anecdotes, and an income of about fifty thousand dollars a year.

BLACK PANTHERS.

The Remarkable Jaguar in the Hamburg Thiergarten. Black panthers are found in nearly all large zoological gardens, but the Thiergarten of Hamburg boasts of possessing the only captive black jaguar in the world. It is also claimed by the Brazilians that the skins brought in from the provinces vary greatly in color and spots, but not once in ten years is a hunter heard from who has encountered a jet black jaguar.

Since the range of this animal includes to the south all Central and South America, except the cooler districts of Patagonia, and to the north, part of Texas and all of Mexico, it might easily be confounded with the fabulous black karaguar, reported to have been seen in parts of Mexico. The Mexicans tell strange stories of a powerful black beast which they name a night tiger and which they credit with marvelous strength, more to be feared than jaguars and panthers.

These tales being rather mythical and differing greatly in descriptive details, it will be necessary to catch one of these betes noires or to procure skin and skeleton, in order to have unexaggerated facts.

Her jagship in Hamburg is a real jaguar, possessing all the characteristics of the fells once, with the exception of the colored spots of the skin. When the color is a rich yellow and marked off with large black spots and rings, as is usually the case, the handsome body tends to mollify the ferocious appearance, but the very sight of this crouching, all-black monster, with its large furtive eyes and stealthy movements is enough to inspire the visitors with fear. She was trapped in one of the thick forests near the Blumenau colony, in the province of Santa Catharina, in Brazil, and in reality she has proved to be rather less savage than others which have come from the same region. Her comparatively mild temperament is perhaps due to her femininity, for it requires daring courage to pass the South American river banks, where their ominous, hoarse and oft-repeated "pu pu" is heard all the day long. The jaguars are the more dangerous on account of their agility in climbing. Watching from between the branches, they will pounce down unawares upon their victims. A few decades ago two thousand were killed yearly, but they are still numerous in the less inhabited provinces. There they are bold and do not hesitate to attack any animal. A full-grown jaguar, after killing a horse, is able to swim across a river with it, drag the carcass to its haunts. In the trees it is agile enough to pursue and kill monkeys, and it will stand in the shallow water watching for fish, which it dexterously throws ashore. Much cunning is displayed in the capture of turtles. It will put a paw between the shells and drag it slowly on the bank. Once ashore the shells are apart in less time than it can be told, and every particle of the delicious meat is then devoured at ease.

If a jaguar has ever tasted human blood it becomes a most dangerous foe, and will even enter villages and not hesitate to attack men and women. The young female in the Hamburg Thiergarten was an unmanageable beast in the start, but with kind treatment has become quite docile. When looking at her from the head downward the color seems totally black, but looking the other way in the sunshine brownish tints are seen where other jaguars have their dark spots. A short time ago the attempt was made to put a prettily spotted mate in her cage, but they could not agree together. A friendship has lately been established between her and a male four years old, and it is hoped that peace will continue. If so an offspring will be anxiously looked for by zoologists, who would like to know what kind of a skin will be the result of mating these opposite colors.—Chicago Post.

WHAT IS AN ACCIDENT?

Some Things on Which a Policy Holder Cannot Collect. To the non-legal mind the term "accident" would appear to be easily defined, but the late Lord Chief Justice Cockburn thought not, and on several occasions insurance companies have sought a definition in the courts of law. It has been decided that a stroke is not an accident, but that injury to the spine through lifting a heavy weight is one. Even if physical ailments contribute to an accident, it is covered by the policy. The relatives of a man who, while bathing in a shallow water, was seized with a fit and suffocated, sustained their claim, as did those of a man who, when similarly seized, fell under a train and was killed. Again, a person having fallen and dislocated his shoulder was put to bed and carefully nursed, but in less than a month he died of pneumonia. The connection between that complaint and a dislocated shoulder is not at once visible, but on the ground that the restlessness and susceptibility to cold produced by the accident led to the disease which killed him, the relatives were held to be entitled to claim. "The influence of intoxicating liquor" has been authoritatively defined as "influence which disturbs the balance of a man's mind or the intelligent exercise of his faculties," and injuries received while in that condition are not covered by an accident policy. Nor are those caused by running obvious risk, as crossing a railway, even at a proper place, without exercising due care to avoid passing trains.—Chambers Journal.

Well, Hardly. "Can't you wait upon me?" said the impatient customer. "Two pounds of liver! I'm in a hurry." "Sorry," said the butcher, "but there are two or three ahead of you. Surely you would not have your liver out of order?"—Boston Transcript.

"Have you a piano in the house?" Landlady—"No." "Any children, then?" Landlady—"No." "And not any one learning to play the flute?" Landlady—"No." "Well, I'll have to look elsewhere, for my wife won't be contented without something to find fault about."—Inter Ocean.

A Wholesome Sufferer. "I have a felon on my thumb." "I have thirty of forty on my hands." "Nonsense!" "It's a fact. I'm the warden of the state prison."—Truth.

Overcoming It. Reggy—"You have a rosebud mouth, Miss Ada." Miss Ada—"Oh, you flatter me! Reggy—(straining himself)—No, really, I assure you, a regular American Rosebud."—Puck.

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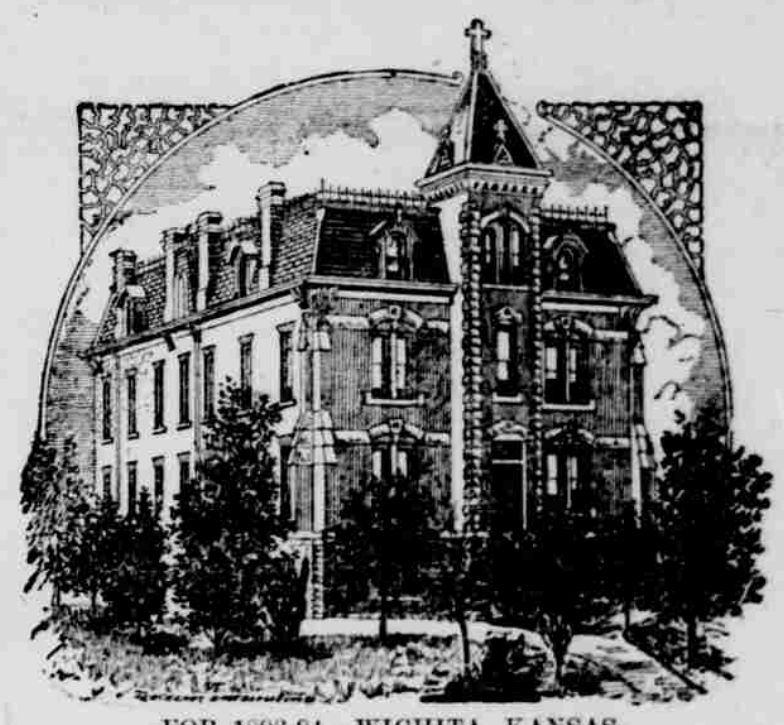


Dr. Terrill, President of the Kansas Medical and Surgical Institute and Sanitarium, and Dr. Purdy, Proprietor and Surgeon in chief of the Wichita Medical Institute and Eye and Ear Infirmary have combined the two Institutions, which will hereafter be known as the Terrill-Purdy Medical and Surgical Institute and Eye and Ear Infirmary, located on the corner of First and Main street, in the Gandolfo Block. The names of Drs. Terrill and Purdy is sufficient guarantee to the public of the high personal and professional character of the new enterprise, which in general equipment and expert licence of management, ranks first in the Southwest. Little need be said of the proprietors individually. In the diseases of women, electricity and chronic diseases generally, Dr. Terrill has no superior in the southwest; while Dr. Purdy's ability as a surgeon and oculist is acknowledged by the profession and laity alike.

Ours is the only Eye and Ear Infirmary in the state and Dr. Purdy is the only Oculist connected with any Medical Institute or organization in the city. We desire to thank the public for their confidence, patronage and moral support in the past, and to pledge the same energy and devotion to our patients on the part of the new management in the future.

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ALL HALLOWS ACADEMY.



FOR 1893-94. WICHITA, KANSAS.

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Studies will be resumed the first Monday in September.

For further particulars apply to the

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KILLIES AND THEIR FOES.

Not Only Fish, Fowl and Man Devour, But Even Chickens Pillage Them.

"He doesn't mind a little thing like that," said the deacon, kindly, as he passed his hook through the skin before the back fin of the killie and cast minnow, hook and snicker the length of his line to try the effect of a fresh bait. "If the snappers don't bite any better than they've been doing he'll be swimming as lively as ever when we pull up anchor to go home. Look at those killies in the bait box. Nothing damper about them than some seaweed since morning, and they'll all be ready to swim away if they stay till to-morrow."

"They are tough and hardy little fellows and no mistake," he continued, lifting the seaweed to look admiringly at the wriggling little stunted fish packed like sardines in the box. "They seem to have been created for the good of others. Everything preyon killies, from men who bait their hooks with them or eat the minnows as white bait, down to the gulls and herons and bass and blackfish and weakfish and fluke and snappers that follow them among the grass every fall tide. And

with all this keeping after them they don't thin them out that anyone can see. Why, the very chickens along shore will run from a dough trough for the sake of eating killies' eggs."

"Hold on a minute, deacon," said the reporter, who was the pious mariner's fishing companion that day. "I grant all the rest you say, but please explain how chickens manage to get at the killies' eggs. If you'd said ducks or geese, I could understand it."

"How long have we been engaged, George?" she asked. "Why, since last August," he answered. "I couldn't tell whether it was August or June," she replied. "You see, I keep getting you and Freddie Smikens mixed."—Washington Star.

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